

County Snapshot

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Situated along the Pacific Ocean coastline, **Monterey County** is bordered on the inland sides by Santa Cruz County to the north, San Benito, Fresno, and Kings counties to the east, and San Luis Obispo County to the south.

Between 1990 and 1999, Monterey County's population increased by 37,700, or 10.6 percent. A projected population of 575,100 by the year 2020 will amount to an increase of 43 percent over the current population.

According to 1999 annual average statistics, the civilian labor force for Monterey County was 191,700 with an unemployment rate of 9.5 percent. The state's unemployment rate was 5.2 percent for the same year.

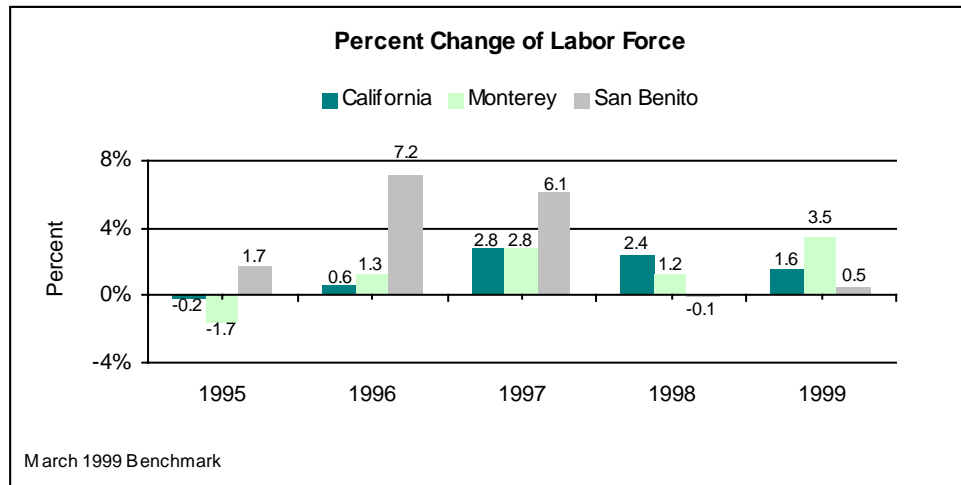
Agriculture is the dominant industry division in the county, accounting for 22.4 percent of the total employment. Services, another significant division, accounts for 21.6 percent of employment, and government makes up 18.1 percent of the total.

Most of the jobs in Monterey's future nonfarm wage and salary employment will be in the services, retail trade and government sectors. By 2004, services, the fastest growing industry, is projected to add 7,500 jobs, a growth of 22.8 percent. Retail trade is projected to grow by 13.2 percent with most of the new jobs in the eating and drinking places industry. Government will add 3,200 new jobs, a growth of 11.4 percent.

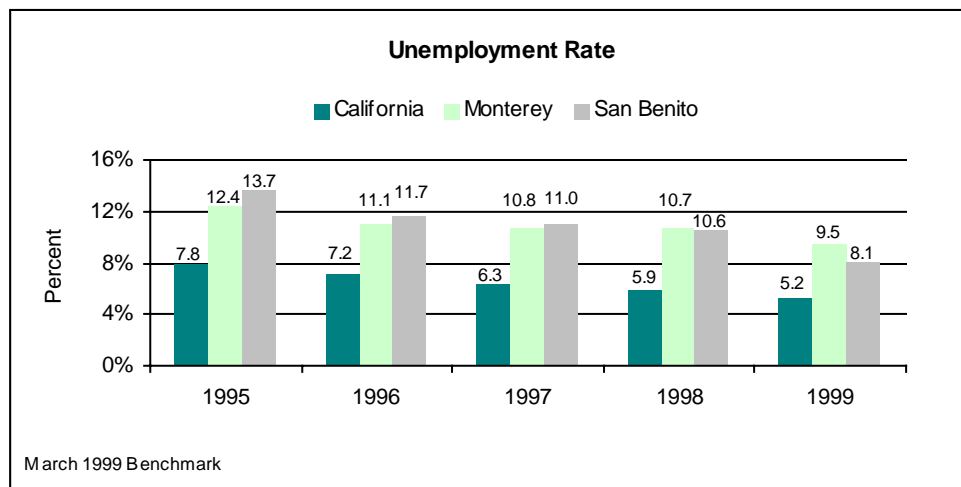
Labor market conditions in Monterey County, also known as the Salinas Metropolitan Statistical Area, have been steadily improving over the last five years. The county continues to record job growth and declining unemployment rates.

LABOR FORCE

Over the years 1995 to 1999, Monterey County had 9 percent cumulative growth in the civilian labor force with 3.5 percent growth recorded in 1999. Neighboring San Benito County recorded moderate growth during the same period, posting its strongest growth in 1996 and 1997..

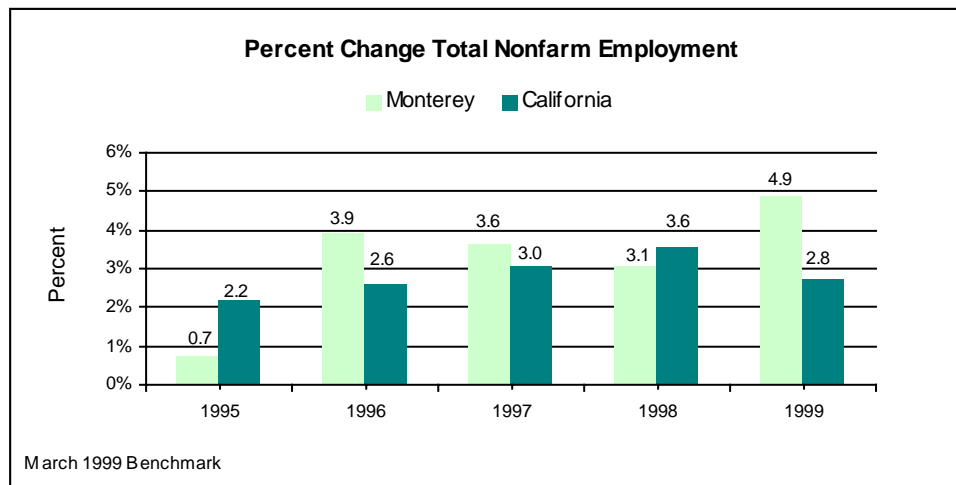


Over the years 1995 to 1999, the annual average unemployment rate for both Monterey and San Benito counties has been steadily declining. By 1999, Monterey County's unemployment rate was 9.5 percent, down 2.9 percentage points from the 12.4 percent recorded in 1995.

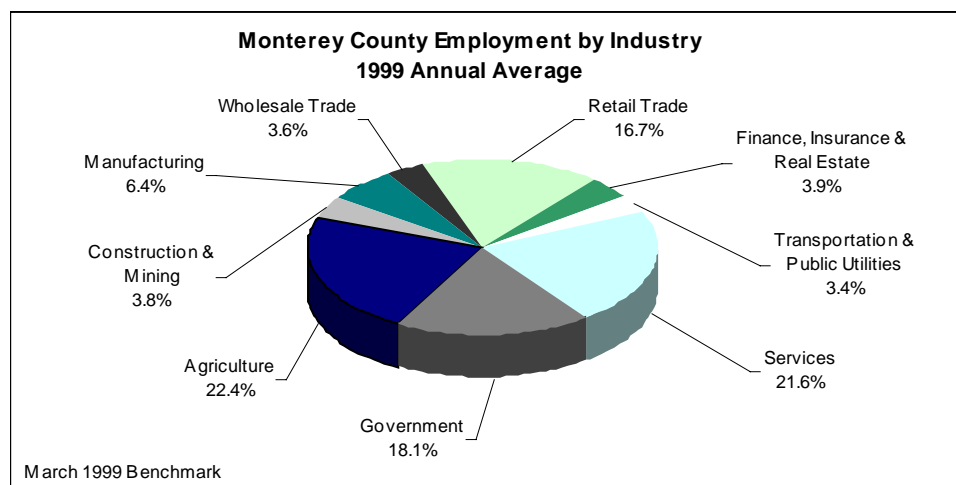


INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

Since 1995, Monterey County has recorded continuous growth in total nonfarm employment. Cumulative growth over the years 1995 to 1999 was 16.4 percent. In 1999, Monterey posted 4.9 percent growth compared to 2.8 percent growth for the state.



The agricultural, services, government and retail trade sectors dominated Monterey County employment in 1999. Projections in total nonfarm employment for the forecast period 1997 to 2004 indicate that the services, retail trade, and government sectors will provide about 83 percent of the total growth.



OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Demographic trends, shifts in demands for products or services, technological innovations and the way business is conducted are some of the variables that drive employment in an occupation up or down. Also, occupations which have large employment and have high turnover rates generally provide the most job openings. Monterey County is projected to have more employment opportunities in the high turnover occupations than in the more technologically advanced categories.

Associated Occupations	SERVICES 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 22.8%
	Registered Nurses – 400 job openings. Provide direct bedside care and assist physicians with examinations, chart the conditions of patients, give medication, and administer treatment as ordered by the doctor. May supervise auxiliary nursing personnel. Associate Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$31.34
	Guards And Watch Guards – 280 job openings. Stand guard at entrance gates or walk about premises of businesses, industrial establishments, or private residences to prevent theft, violence or infractions of rules. Direct patrons or employees, control traffic. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.74
	Receptionists, Information Clerks – 260 job openings. Answer inquiries and obtain information for the general public concerning activities conducted at an establishment, such as the location of offices or persons within the firm, departments within the store, or services within the hotel. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$9.56
	General Managers, Top Executives – 220 job openings. Include both top and mid-level managers whose duties and responsibilities are too diverse and general in nature to be classified in any functional or line area of management and administration. Work Experience, plus a Bachelor's or higher. Median Hourly Wage - \$29.61
	Misc. Helpers, Laborers – Hand, NEC – 220 job openings. Perform a broad array of helper and laborer jobs that require little training; assist more skilled production, construction, operating and maintenance workers with routine, physical work under close supervision. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$9.01
Associated Occupations	RETAIL TRADE 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 13.2%
	Salespersons, Retail – 590 job openings. Get the customer interested by describing the merchandise and showing how it is used. May also order merchandise, stock shelves, mark price tags, take inventory and prepare displays. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$8.07
	Cashiers – 540 job openings. Handle cash and credit payments, make change, give receipts, account for all payments, and perform related clerical duties. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.61
	Combined Food Preparation And Service Workers – 370 job openings. Do both food preparation and food service. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.11
	Food Preparation Workers – 320 job openings. Perform a variety of food preparation duties, such as preparing cold foods and maintaining and cleaning kitchen work areas, equipment, and utensils. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.64
	Waiters And Waitresses – 290 job openings. Serve food and drink to customers. Duties may include explanation about how the meal is prepared, wine recommendations or simple food preparation at the table. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$5.96
Associated Occupations	GOVERNMENT 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 11.4%
	Corrections Officers And Jailers – 220 job openings. Guard inmates in penal or rehabilitative institutions in accordance with established regulations and procedures. May guard prisoners in transit. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$20.01
	Bus Drivers – 120 job openings. Drive bus, transporting passengers over specified routes to local or distant points according to a time schedule. Moderate-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$13.87
	Systems Analysts, Electronic Data Processor – 90 job openings. Analyze business, scientific, and technical problems for application to electronic data processing systems. Bachelor's Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$26.71
	Police Patrol Officers – 70 job openings. Maintain order, enforce laws and ordinances, protect life and property in an assigned patrol district or beat. Patrol on foot or in a vehicle; investigate accidents; apprehend, arrest and process prisoners; and give evidence in court. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$18.86
	Psychiatric Aides – 70 job openings. Assist mentally ill patients, working under direction of nursing and medical staff. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$10.02

This **County Snapshot** is a product of:
State of California
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Labor Market Information Division
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